

HO-403

THE MEYER-MANNER LOG HOUSE

early nineteenth century

Ellicott City

Private

The Meyer-Manner Log House faces east on the east side of the end of Century Drive.

It is a three bay wide, two room deep, two story high, gabled roof (running north-south) log covered with frame siding house with wide brick chimneys inset into its north and south walls, which hold two square, four light attic windows.

Its central rectangular east entrance door is surmounted by a one light transom and covered by a wide, hipped roof, one story high, open porch, held by four iron posts and approached by three wide cement steps.

At one time the north section of the house may have been a detached kitchen which was later connected to the larger log house (south end) by a central hall connector.

Owned by Catherine and Henry Meyer from 1885 to 1922, it was fully conveyed by Catherine Meyer to her nephew Lawrence Manner and his wife Eleanora in 1926, both of whom were brought up in the house by Henry and Catherine.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

MAGI # 1404035304

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC The Meyer-Manner House

AND/OR COMMON

The Manner House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 10097 Century Drive

CITY, TOWN
Ellicott City

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6th

STATE Maryland

COUNTY

Howard

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Mrs. Kathryn Snow

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

10097 Century Drive

CITY, TOWN

Ellicott City, Md. — VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Hall of Records

Tax Map 24
Liber #: 508
Folio #: 669

STREET & NUMBER

Howard County Court House

CITY, TOWN

Ellicott City

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Howard County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

1978

— FEDERAL ☒ STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

21 State Circle, Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

7 DESCRIPTION

HO-403
District 2

CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☐ FAIR
☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

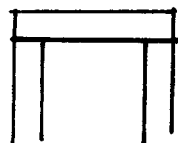
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Meyer-Manner Log Farm house faces east on the east side of the end of Century Drive on 1.143 acres of land. It once encompassed 153 acres. See Attachment 3, Hopkins Atlas of 1878, Mrs. Patterson. The stone foundation for its peg barn lies southwest of the house and the stone foundation for the old smoke house almost directly south.

The house is an interesting one and may at one time have been a log house and log kitchen which were later joined by a wide central hall sometime in the early nineteenth or late eighteenth century. Several features in the house lead to such a conclusion:

- 1) The north bay of the west wall is two feet narrower than the rest of the house.
- 2) Under the north section of the house which has this width differential is no basement, though it is set on a stone foundation. A wide brick chimney is set into its north wall.
- 3) There is a one way staircase in the southeast corner of the present dining room, the south section of the house. This section features two large fireplaces on its south wall on the first floor with simple wide wooden lintels flanked by flat pilasters and crowned by a mantelpiece, with a similar second floor fireplace above. This was probably the main house and the north section its detached kitchen.

It is believed by the author that in the late eighteenth century or beginning of the nineteenth century these two log houses were joined together with a central hall. Both the south and central part of the house rest on a stone basement foundation. The staircase of the central hall is put together with wooden pegs and its spindles are simple and rectangular in design, with no curvilinear pattern so evident in a house of this size and scale in the mid-nineteenth century. The hall must date conservatively to 1820 and may indeed be of the eighteenth century. All the woodwork around the door frames of the house matches and is early in design. The door frame found between the east and west second floor rooms on the early north end of the house is of the earliest design, totally perpendicular and not mitred.



Flat wooden lintel
with two flat
pilasters

The remainder of the woodwork features square end pieces to the flat wooden lintel, over the flat pilasters. The flat base boards measure some seven inches in depth. The total simplicity of the woodwork and mantelpieces, the log construction, as well as the very fine but restrained mantelpieces of the five wide fireplaces date the total building from circa 1820 and the earliest log house prior to that.

Today the house presents itself as a very large three bay wide, two room deep, two story high, gabled roof (running north-south), log covered with frame siding house with wide brick chimneys inset into its north and south walls, which hold two square,

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

four light attic windows.

The building faces east with its central, rectangular entrance door surmounted by a one light transom and covered by a wide, hipped roof, one story high, open porch, held by four iron posts and approached by three wide cement steps.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 18th & 19th Centuries BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Meyer-Manner farm house is significant architecturally, historically, and in the social-humanitarian area. Architecturally it is significant as one of the largest log houses in Howard County yet inventoried by the Comprehensive Planning Section for the Maryland Historical Trust Howard County Inventory. Its walls are some 8-10 inches thick and there are evidences that the large house now standing may have originally been two log houses which were joined together in the late eighteenth or very early nineteenth century. The floors throughout the house are wide random width pine floors of the early nineteenth century. A door frame in the north section of the house features an unmitred flat wooden lintel supported by two flat pilasters, which is indicative of late eighteenth century woodwork. Throughout the remainder of the house are featured square end pieces to the flat wooden lintels of the door frames, supported by flat pilasters. The staircase holds plain rectangular spindles put together with wooden pegs. The north wall of the house has been covered with ship lap frame siding while the remainder of the house has been covered by plain wooden shingles.

Historically the old farm has been most recently known as the Manner Farm, owned by Lawrence and Eleanora Manner who raised twelve children, six boys and six girls, here. Their story is an interesting one. It seems that Lawrence's mother died in childbirth and it was left to his father, Charles Manner, to bring him up alone. On September 9, 1885, Mary Catherine Meyer, sister of Charles, and her husband Henry Meyer bought the present farm from a Captain Hicks (LJW 49-580) and moved to Howard County. This couple had no children and Henry Meyer asked Charles Manner, his brother-in-law, if he would let him have Lawrence to help him work the farm, bringing him up as his own son. Charles ran a tavern in Govans, Baltimore County, and feeling this was a fine opportunity for his son Lawrence, agreed. Lawrence came to Howard County to help his Uncle Henry run the farm. As Henry and Catherine got the farm going, Catherine decided it would be helpful to have a girl in the family. She went to St. Louis' Catholic Church in Clarksville and there she asked the priest to help her find a young girl. The priest visited St. Vincent's Orphans Home in Washington, D. C. and there found Eleanora Mattigan who came to live with Henry and Catherine, and was brought up with Lawrence. Mrs. O'Donnel, daughter of Lawrence and Eleanora Manner, relates how her father remarked that the older Eleanora got, the prettier she got. They were married when she was eighteen and he was thirty and raised their family of twelve here. Uncle Henry died in 1916 and Aunt Kate made Lawrence and Eleanora joint tenants of the property on March 4, 1922 (HBN 114-462). In 1926 Aunt Kate died and the farm was conveyed to Lawrence and Eleanora.

The old kitchen on the west side of the south section of the house became Eleanora's sewing room (now a den) and a new two story high, shed roofed kitchen addition with two upstairs bedrooms was constructed along the south wall of the house.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

The north section of the house, believed to be the oldest section, was one large room with central mantelpiece. Mrs. O'Donnell remembers dances taking place here; her mother playing the piano and her father the accordin for her wedding party. Circa 1950 it was made into a separate apartment for her mother with kitchen and living room as the house was occupied by Mrs. Kathryn Manner Snow, another daughter of Eleanora and Lawrence and sister of Mrs. O'Donnell.

The story of the Meyer-Manner House is also a story which is significant in the social-humanitarian area for it is the story of a house which sheltered a loving and caring family, whose traditions are carried on by the children and grandchildren of Lawrence and Eleanora.

Mrs. O'Donnell relates that her mother sewed beautifully, even making winter coats for the children. At harvest time everything that was not eaten or sold was put up and/or canned to provide for the winter.

The deep religious values of Aunt Kate were just as deeply instilled in Eleanora and this religious heritage with its esteem for family gatherings is carried on by her daughters. Such a gathering at the old residence was in progress during an interview with Mrs. O'Donnel and her sister, Kathryn, owner of the house. In almost every room can be seen religious artifacts of one kind or another. A family with a Roman Catholic religious heritage, Eleanora and Lawrence with their family around them read the Bible each Sunday after attending church and having their Sunday dinner. During storms Eleanora would recite the rosary. Such piety made a deep impression on her children, which in turn has been inherited by her grandchildren. All have remained Roman Catholics and have been married in the church. Two daughters-in-law who were not brought up as Roman Catholics decided to join the church before their marriage to Mrs. O'Donnell's twin sons. The first double wedding ever to occur at historic St. Paul's Catholic Church was the marriage of these two sons and their brides on May 19, 1962. Receptions had always taken place at the old residence but with four families in attendance, the Ellicott City Armory had to be used.

Historically and architecturally the Meyer-Manner house is noteworthy--in the social-humanitarian area it is incomparable. Four generations now have been influenced by the deep religious and humanitarian values of Aunt Kate and present an interesting social study of an American family.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Ho-403
Dist 2

Interview with Mrs. Gerald A. O'Donnell April 2, 1978

Howard County Land Records

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1.143 Acres

Please see Attachment 1, Tax Map 24 p.451

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Please see Howard County Land Records 308-669

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE Maryland

COUNTY Howard

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Cleora Barnes Thompson, Archivist

ORGANIZATION

Office of Planning & Zoning-Comprehensive Planning Section 465-5000 x257

STREET & NUMBER

3450 Court House Drive

DATE

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Ellicott City

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

Attachment 1
H0-403
The Meyer-Manner House
Tax Map 24

G. DUDLEY IVERSON, V
WR 6/396
597.50A.
P.290

BOARD OF ED. OF IIO. CO.
696/608
70.00A
P.1095

C. MERRITT PUMPHREY
-ET. AL.
453/757
46.41A.
P.291

BD. OF
ED. 3.34A.
540/135 P.1029
P.1020

FONT HILLS
JOINT VENTURE
574/78
106.25A.
P.131

BICENTENNIAL
JOINT VENTURE
762/288
81.55A.
P.295

FOX HILL
JOINT VENTURE
780/395
9.56A.
P.402

SCALE
1"=800'

PUBLISHED
1977

MAP COORDINATE BLOC
NUMBER SEQUENCE

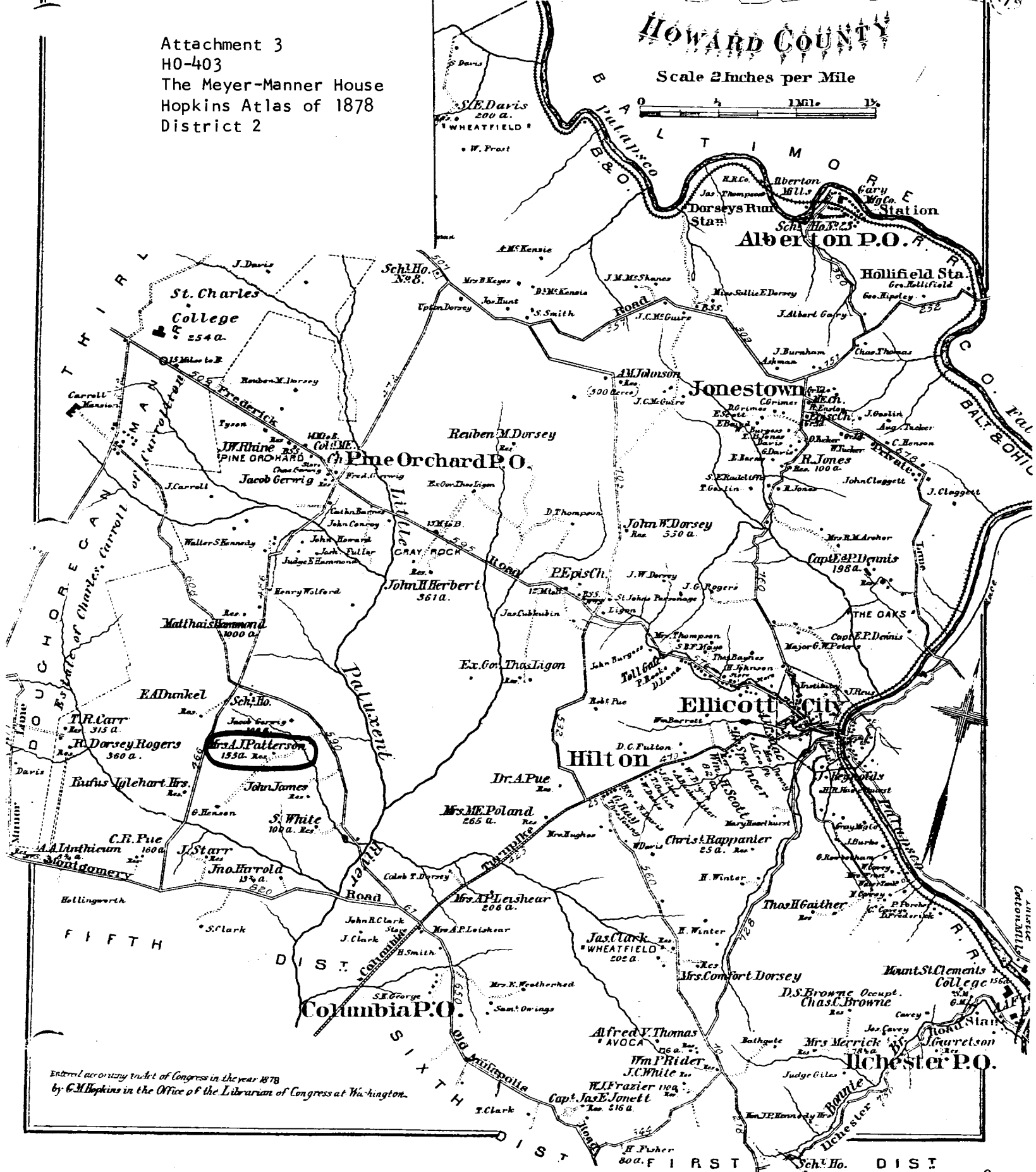
1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24

(SECOND DISTRICT)

HOWARD COUNTY

Scale 2 Inches per Mile

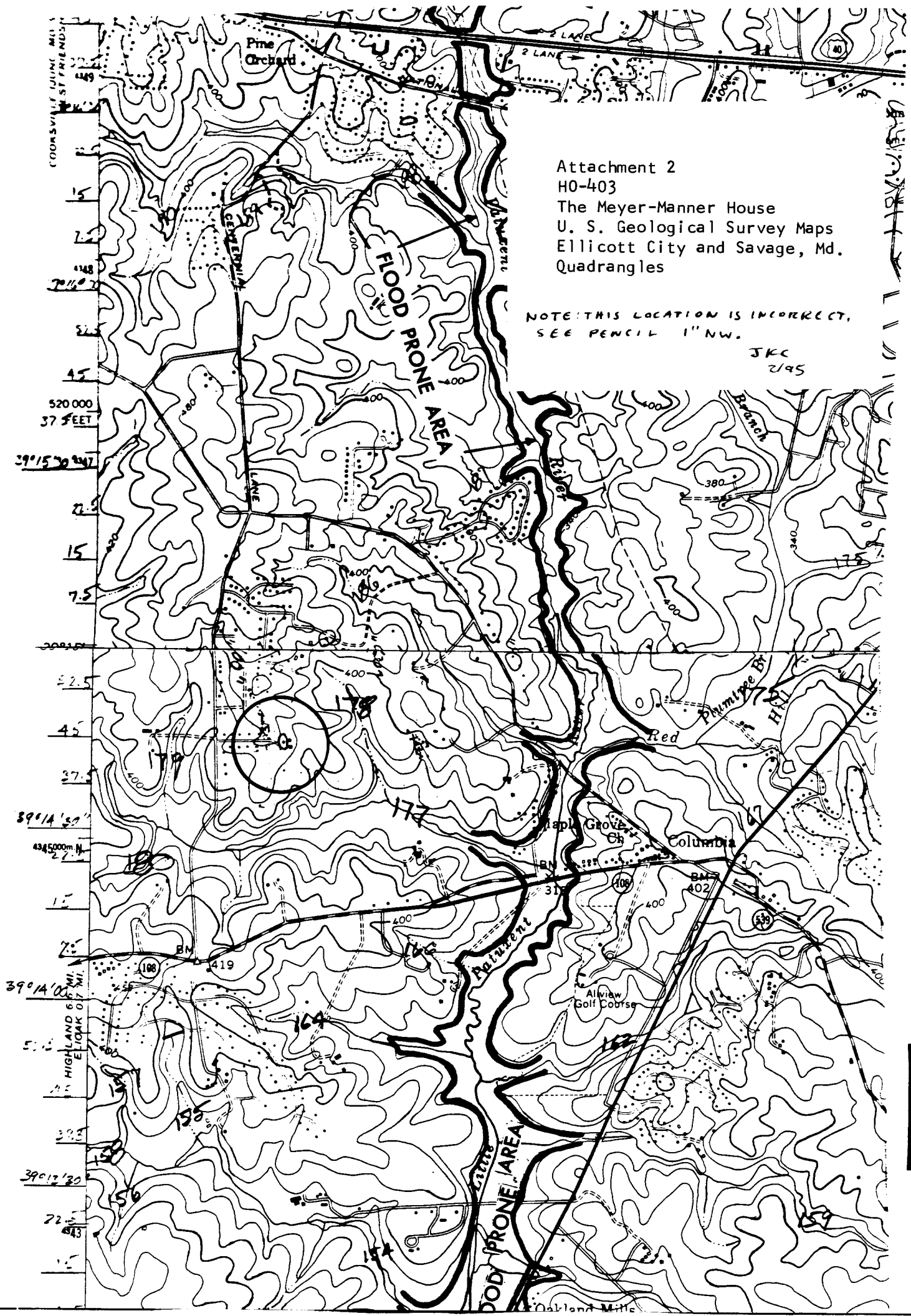
Attachment 3
H0-403
The Meyer-Manner House
Hopkins Atlas of 1878
District 2



Entered according to act of Congress in the year 1878
by G.M. Hopkins in the Office of the Librarian of Congress at Washington.

Quadrangles

JKC
2/95





HO-403

THE MEYER-MANNER HOUSE
N.WEST

CB THOMPSON, AIP

MAR - 1978